

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Steve O. Rasmussen et al.

Serial No.: 10/616,809

Filed: July 10, 2003

Docket No.: 10012978-2

Title: STARWHEEL ACTUATION TIMING FOR PRINT MEDIA TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND METHOD**REMARKS**

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 4, 2005, in which claims 63, 65, 68-85, 91, and 93-104 were allowed, and claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 86-90, and 92 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 46, 58, and 86 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 46-104, therefore, remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 86-90, and 92 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshimura U.S. Patent No. 5,818,487.

With this Amendment, independent claims 46 and 58 have been amended to clarify that the starwheel is prevented from contact with the drive roller at all times when in the engaged position, and independent claim 86 has been amended to clarify that selectively actuating the starwheel includes preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller at all times during printing.

With respect to the Yoshimura et al. patent, this patent does not teach or suggest a print media transport assembly as claimed in independent claim 46, a printing system as claimed in independent claim 58, nor a method of printing as claimed in independent claim 86 wherein the starwheel is prevented from contacting the drive roller at all times.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 46, 58, and 86 are each patentably distinct from the Yoshimura et al. patent and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 47-57 further define patentably distinct claim 46, dependent claims 59-62, 64, 66, and 67 further define patentably distinct claim 58, and dependent claims 87-90 and 92 further define patentably distinct claim 86, Applicant submits that each of these dependent claims are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 86-90, and 92 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 86-90, and 92 be allowed.

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Title: STARWHEEL ACTUATION TIMING FOR PRINT MEDIA TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND METHOD**Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 63, 65, 68-85, 91, and 93-104 are allowed. Applicant appreciates the indicated allowance of these claims.

Applicant agrees with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, Applicant submits that the above-identified claims are allowable because the prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

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Title: STARWHEEL ACTUATION TIMING FOR PRINT MEDIA TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND METHOD**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 46-104 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Robert D. Wasson at Telephone No. (360) 212-2338, Facsimile No. (360) 212-3060 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

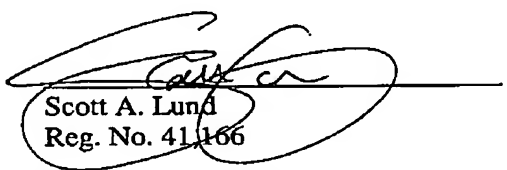
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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on this 31st day of October, 2005.


By _____
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